MARVEL COMICS
OLD FRIENDS... NEW FOES!
SPIDER-MAN 2099
© 1994 MARVEL ENT. GROUP, INC.
$1.50 US
$2.05 CAN
23
SEP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DIRECT EDITION
LEONARDI
WILLIAMSON

SPIDER-MAN 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 23, September, 1994. (ISSN # 1067-5116) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.05 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $18.00 U.S.; $30.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPIDER-MAN 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SPIDER-MAN 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP. SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (212) 696-0670. PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Oh, YES. EXTREMELY COCKY.

FIRE

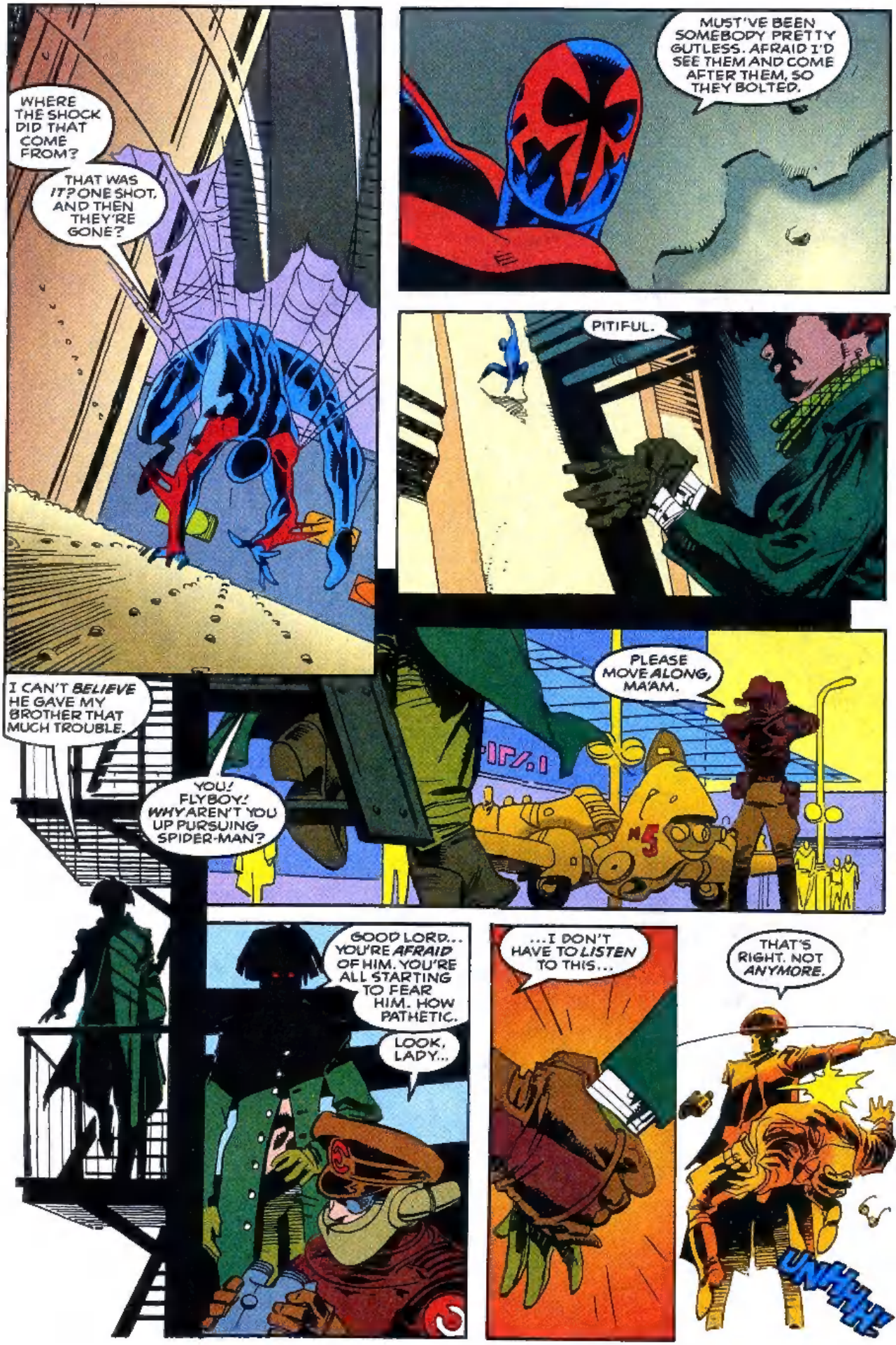
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN KNOCK SOME OF THE STARCH OUT OF HIM!

WHOA!

EVEN WITH MY ACCELERATED VISION...

I BARELY *SAW* THAT ONE COMING!

A FEW MILLIMETERS TO THE LEFT WOULD'VE *DRILLED* ME THROUGH THE SKULL!

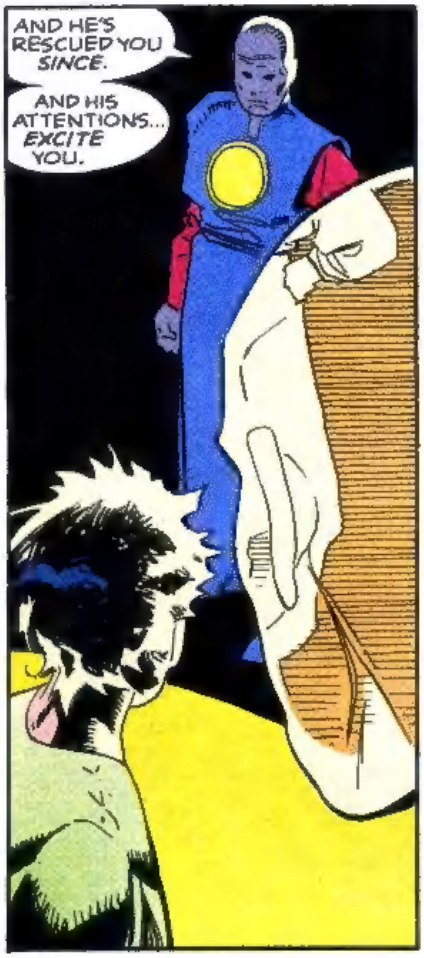

WHERE THE SHOCK DID THAT COME FROM?
THAT WAS IT? ONE SHOT, AND THEN THEY'RE GONE?
MUST'VE BEEN SOMEBODY PRETTY GUTLESS. AFRAID I'D SEE THEM AND COME AFTER THEM, SO THEY BOLTED.
PITIFUL.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GAVE MY BROTHER THAT MUCH TROUBLE.
YOU! FLYBOY! WHY AREN'T YOU UP PURSUING SPIDER-MAN?
PLEASE MOVE ALONG, MA'AM.
GOOD LORD... YOU'RE AFRAID OF HIM. YOU'RE ALL STARTING TO FEAR HIM. HOW PATHETIC.
LOOK, LADY...
...I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO THIS...
THAT'S RIGHT. NOT ANYMORE.
UNHHH!

IN A HIDDEN LAB OF STARK-FUJIKAWA...
I'M WARNING YOU, YOU CREEPS!
WHATEVER YOU HAVE PLANNED, YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY COOPERATION FROM KASEY NASH! NO SIR!
Huh? WHAT'S GOING...?
SP... SPIDER-MAN?
WHERE DID YOU GET THOSE HOLOS? WHERE...?
WHAT KIND OF...?
YOU HAVE STRONG FEELINGS FOR HIM. OUR INSTRUMENTATION INDICATES INCREASED PULSE RATE, HEART RATE, PERSPIRATION...
STOP IT!

WH... WHERE DO YOU PEOPLE GET OFF, PROBING ME AND SPYING ON THINGS I HAVE NO CONTROL OVER?
WE HAVE REASONS TO BELIEVE SPIDER-MAN HAS *SIMILAR* FEELINGS FOR YOU.

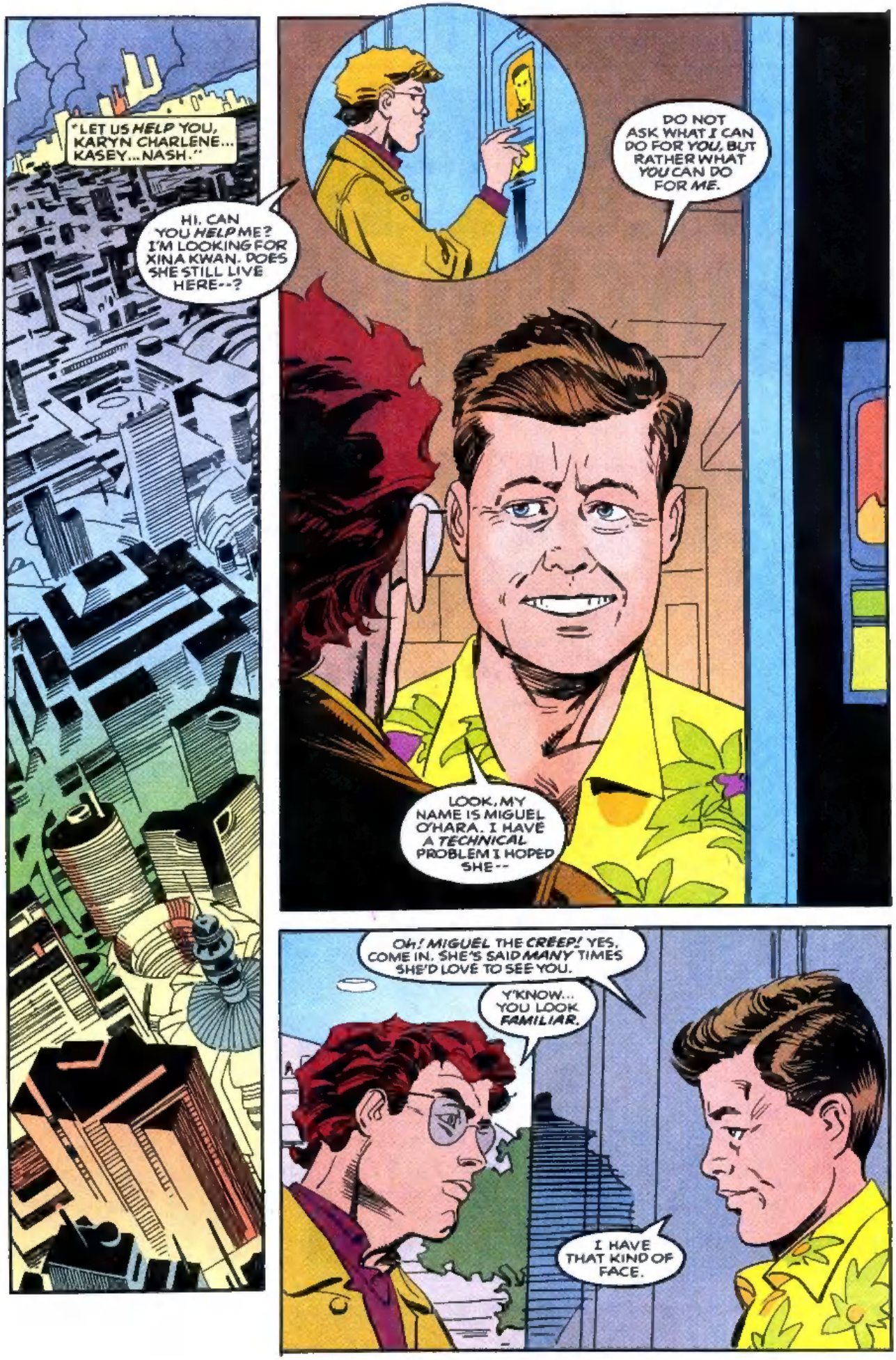
RIDICULOUS.
HE SAVED YOU.
HE SAVES *LOTS* OF PEOPLE.

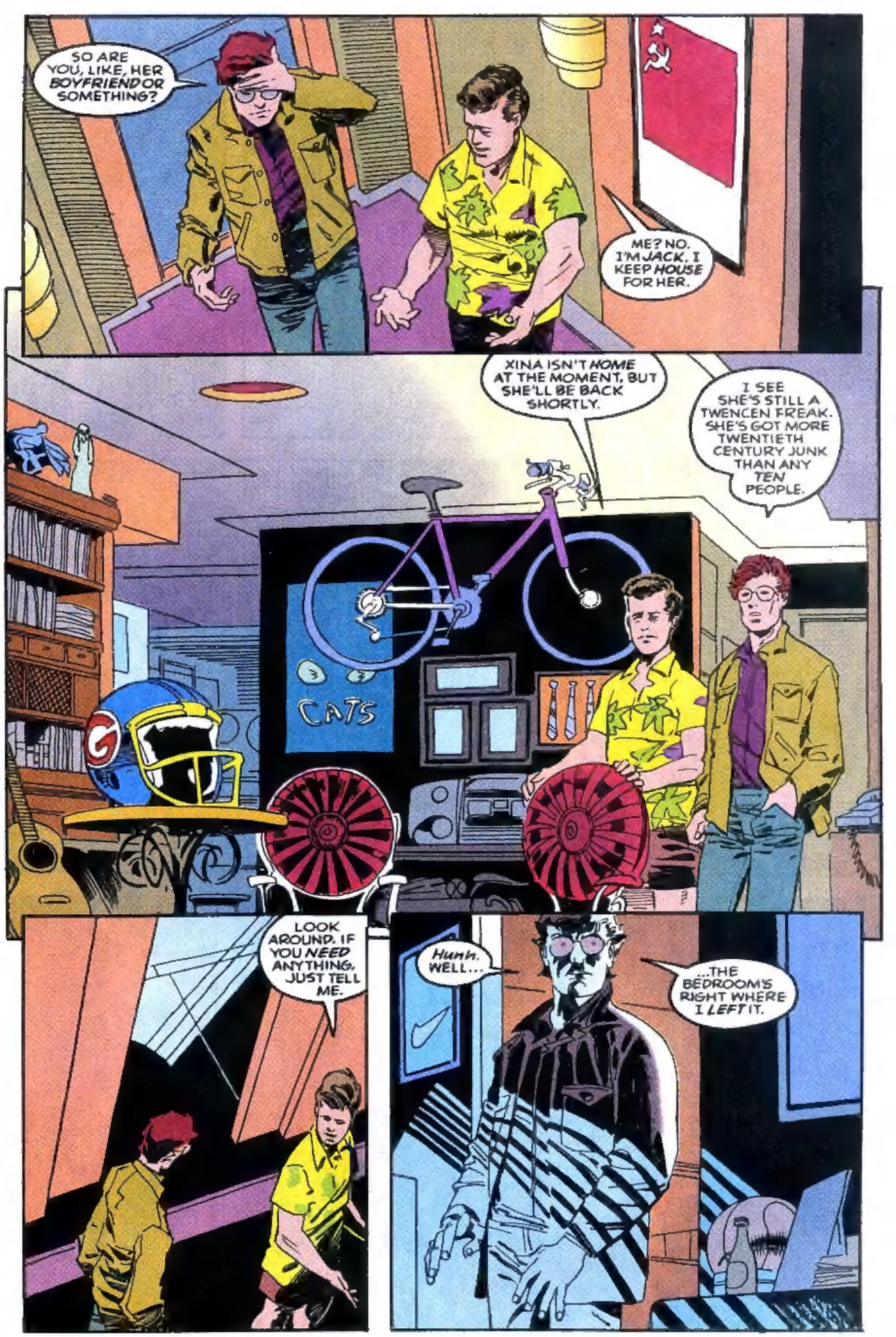
NOW, YES. BUT AT ONE OF HIS EARLIEST APPEARANCES, HE SHOWED UP TO SAVE YOU, A "TOTAL STRANGER." OR PERHAPS NOT A STRANGER.
PERHAPS SOMEONE WHO KNOWS YOU IN HIS CIVILIAN IDENTITY, WHATEVER *THAT* MIGHT BE.


AND HE'S RESCUED YOU *SINCE*.
AND HIS ATTENTIONS... *EXCITE* YOU.

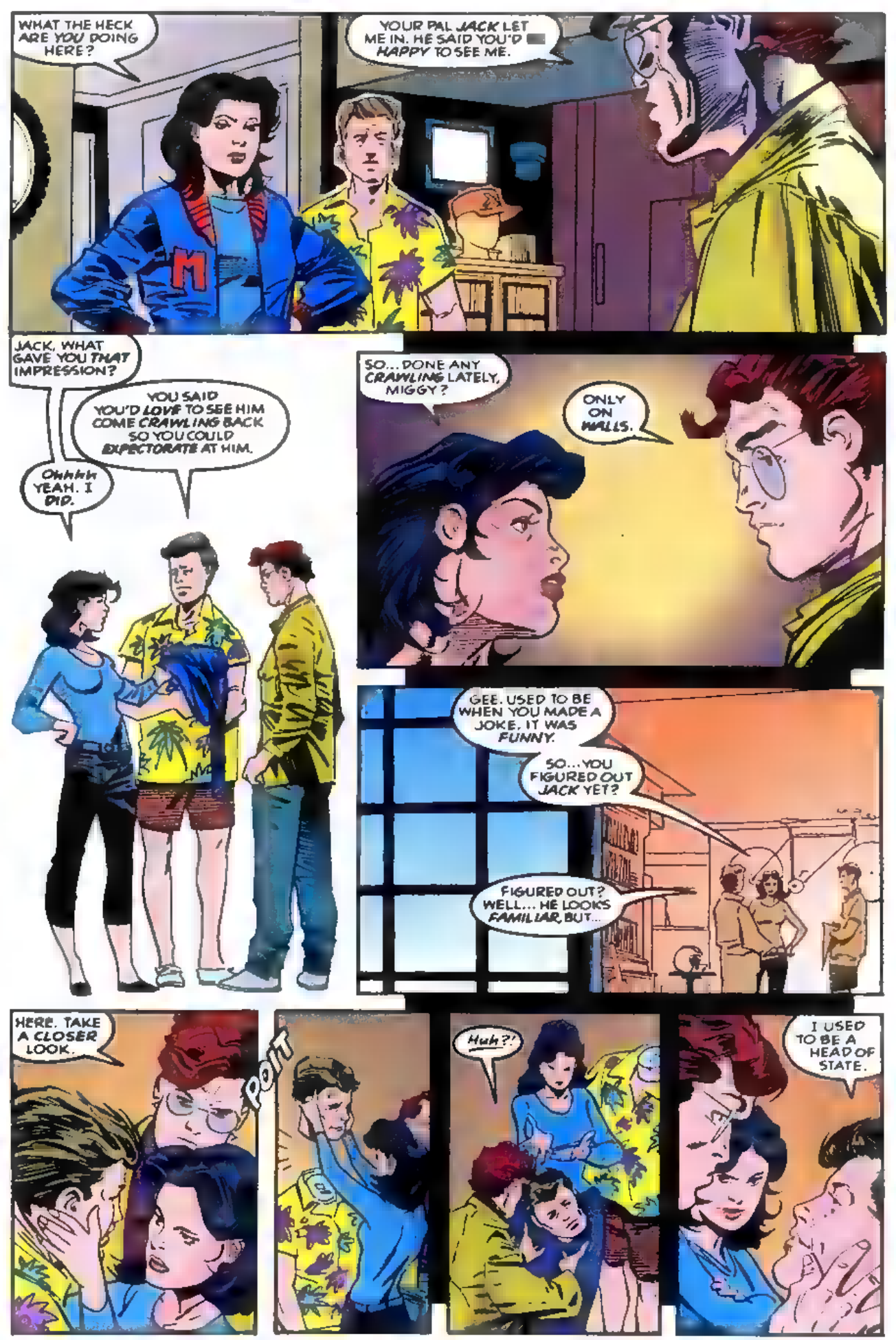
I *KNOW* WHAT YOUR GAME IS. YOU WANT TO GET *SPIDER-MAN*, AND YOU WANT *ME* TO *COOPERATE*, RIGHT?

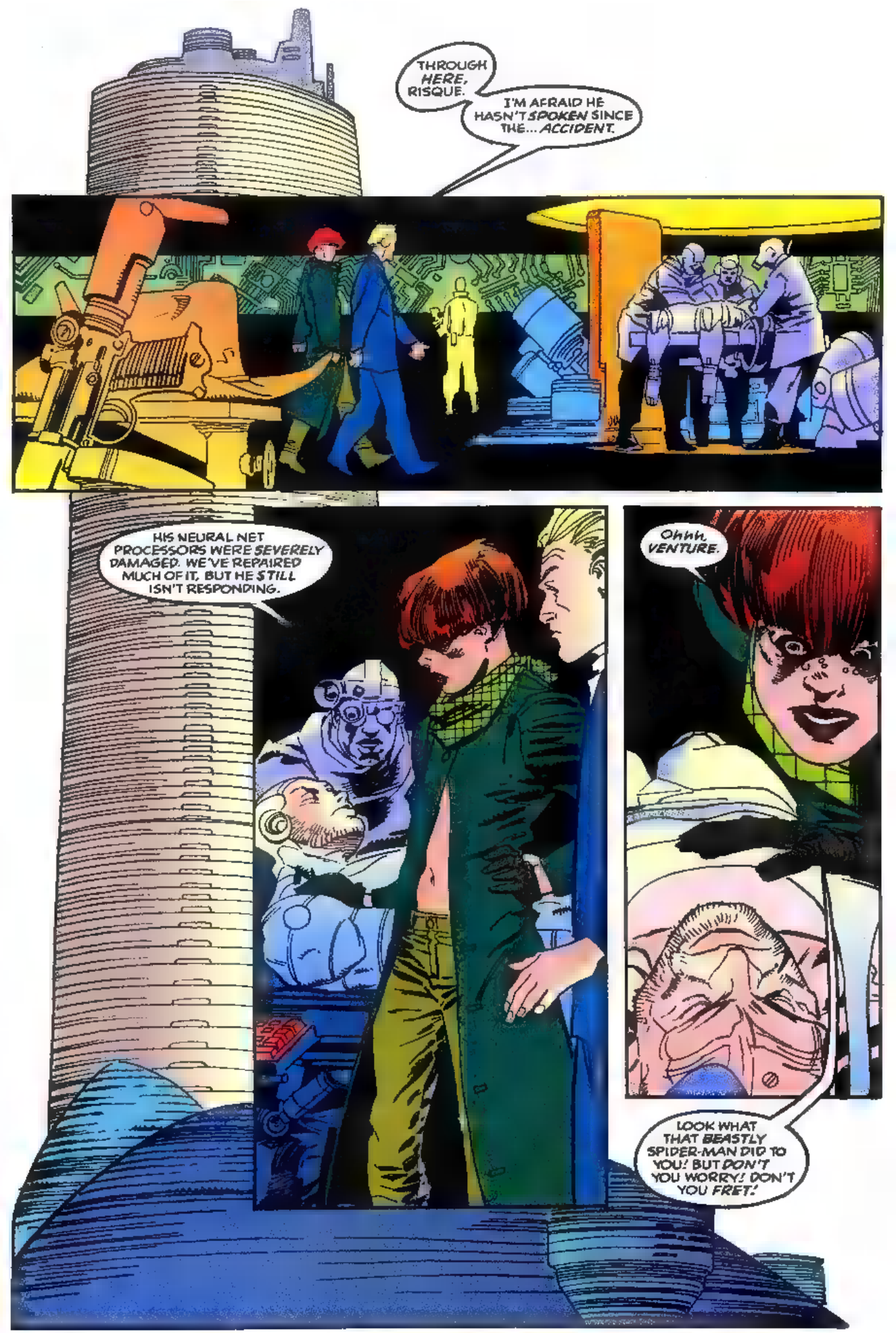
NOT PRECISELY. FOR AS YOU SEE...
HE SAVED ME, AS WELL.
A CURIOUS SITUATION. A DEBT OF HONOR TO AVENGE THE SPECIALIST, WEIGHED AGAINST MY SAVIOR.
THEN WHY NOT JUST CALL IT EVEN?
BECAUSE THE SPECIALIST IS MERELY AN EMPLOYEE.
I AM HIKARU-SAMA.
AREN'T WE THE MASSIVE EGOTIST?
SOME OF US HAVE REASON FOR EGO, KARYN CHARLENE NASH.
OTHERS OF US MERELY HAVE PARENTS WHO LOVED RAPTURE MORE THAN US.
A MOTHER WHO OVERDOSED, AND A FATHER WHO TRADED YOU TO THE BLACK MARKET...
...TO SCORE MORE RAPTURE.
SHUT UP.
RESCUED, ONLY TO BE STUCK IN PUBLIC CARE. YOU ESCAPED, TO SURVIVE IN THE STREETS HOWEVER YOU COULD. OH, THOSE DAYS ARE PAST, BUT THE MEMORY STAYS.
TELL ME, KARYN... WOULD SPIDER-MAN CARE ABOUT A CHEAP LITTLE VERMIN...
...WHO ONCE WAS WILLING TO PUSH ANYTHING FROM DRUGS TO HER OWN BODY?
SHUT UP!!!
SO MUCH PAIN.

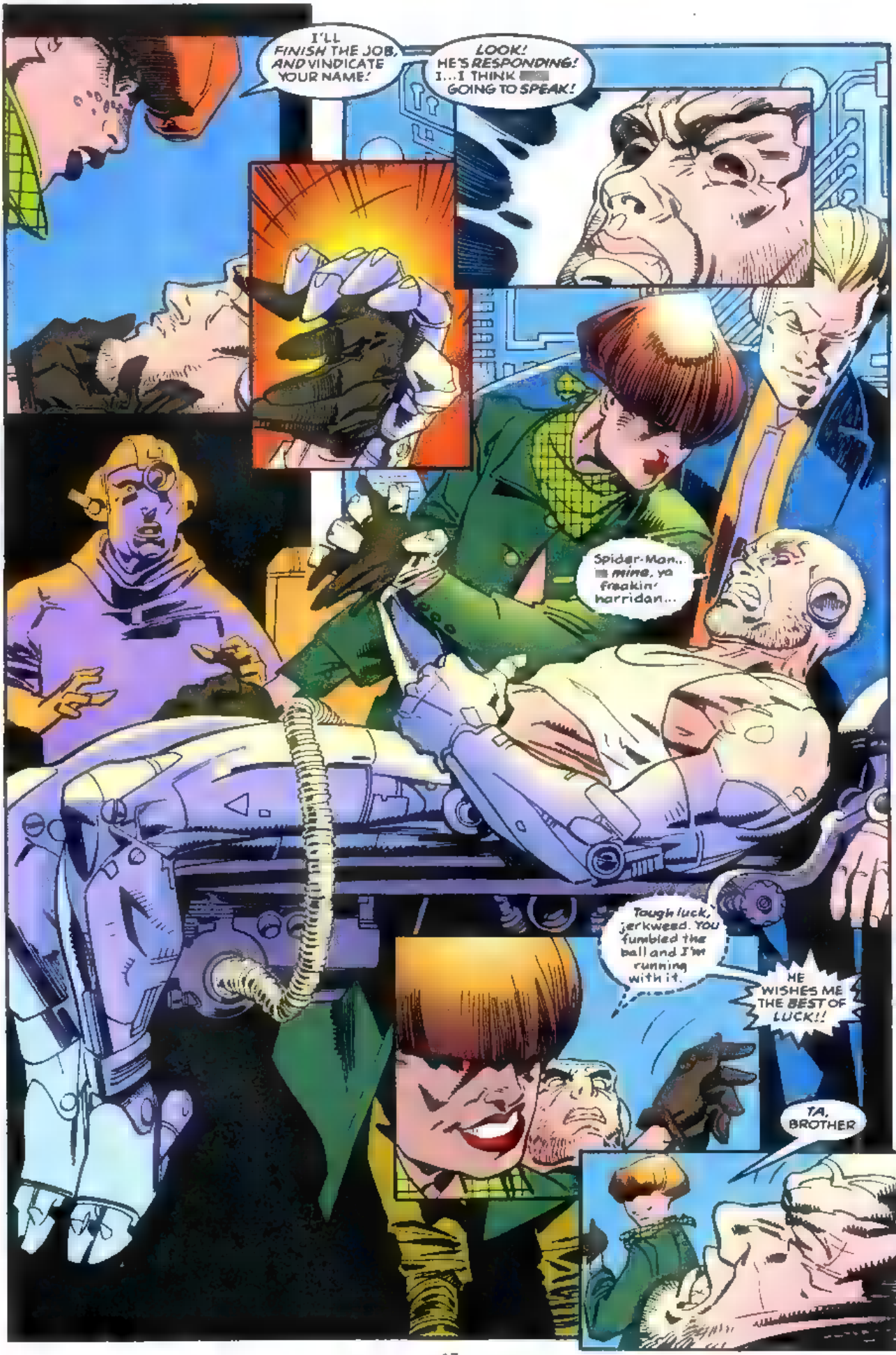

"LET US HELP YOU, KARYN CHARLENE... KASEY... NASH."
HI. CAN YOU HELP ME? I'M LOOKING FOR XINA KWAN. DOES SHE STILL LIVE HERE--?
DO NOT ASK WHAT I CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT RATHER WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR ME.
LOOK, MY NAME IS MIGUEL O'HARA. I HAVE A TECHNICAL PROBLEM I HOPED SHE--
OH! MIGUEL THE CREEP! YES, COME IN. SHE'S SAID MANY TIMES SHE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU.
Y'KNOW... YOU LOOK FAMILIAR.
I HAVE THAT KIND OF FACE.

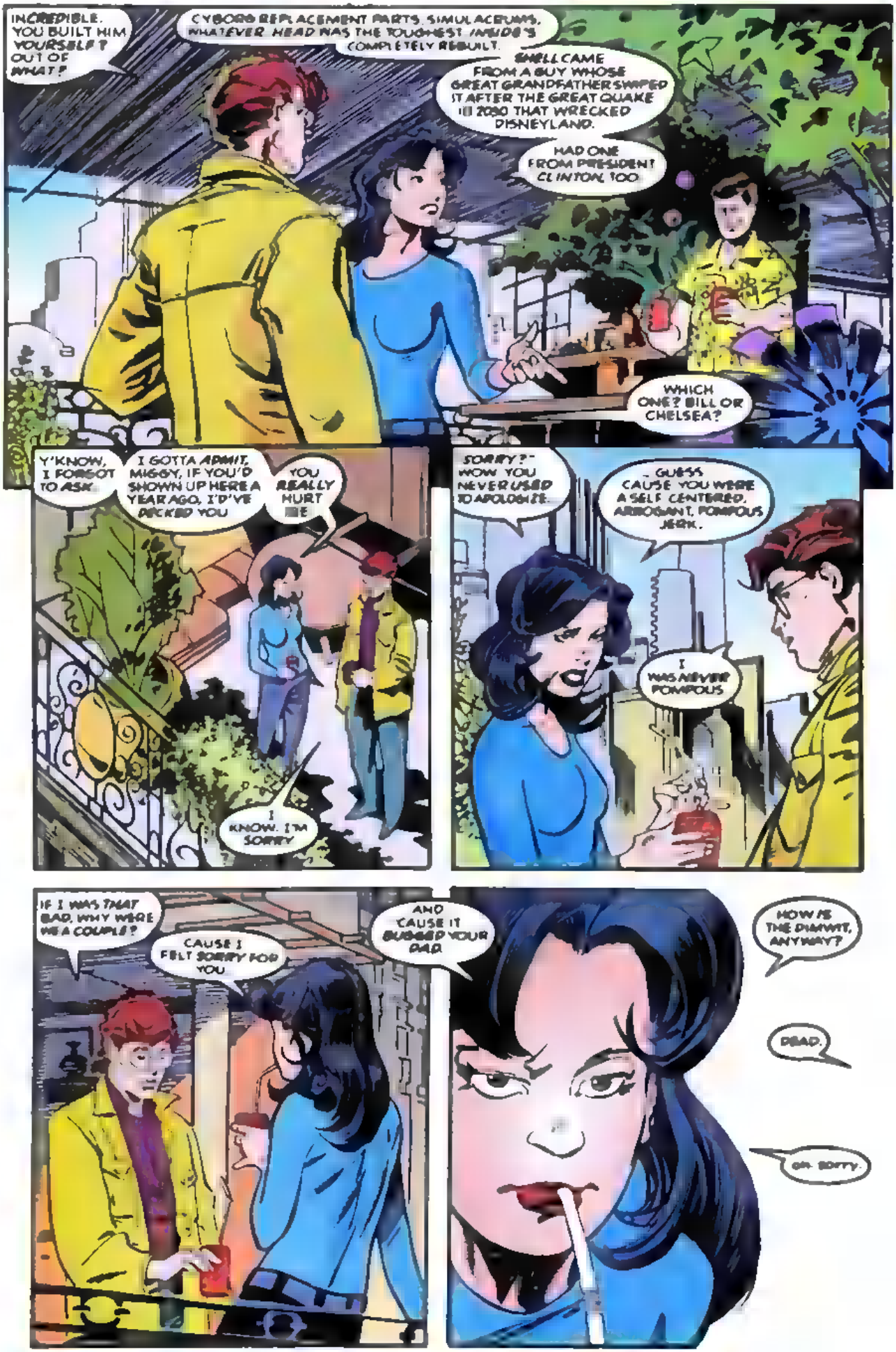

SO ARE YOU, LIKE, HER BOYFRIEND OR SOMETHING?
ME? NO. I'M JACK. I KEEP HOUSE FOR HER.
XINA ISN'T HOME AT THE MOMENT, BUT SHE'LL BE BACK SHORTLY.
I SEE SHE'S STILL A TWENCEN FREAK. SHE'S GOT MORE TWENTIETH CENTURY JUNK THAN ANY TEN PEOPLE.
CATS
LOOK AROUND. IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST TELL ME.
Hunh. WELL...
...THE BEDROOM'S RIGHT WHERE I LEFT IT.

WELL, WELL... STILL BY HER BEDSIDE.
WHOA?!?
WHAT KINDA CRAZY BED DID SHE G--?!
WHAT THE SHOCK--?!
WATER?! WHAT KINDA LOON PUTS WATER IN A MATTRESS?!
NUTS. I GOT SO STARTLED I POPPED MY TALONS AND PUNCTURED THE STUPID THING.
MIGGY?! GET OUT HERE!!
UH... COMING.
FWIZZ
SORRY. JUST WAXING NOSTALGIC.


WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOUR PAL JACK LET ME IN. HE SAID YOU'D HAPPY TO SEE ME.
JACK, WHAT GAVE YOU THAT IMPRESSION?
YOU SAID YOU'D LOVE TO SEE HIM COME CRAWLING BACK SO YOU COULD EXPECTORATE AT HIM.
Ohhhh YEAH. I DID.
SO... DONE ANY CRAWLING LATELY, MIGGY?
ONLY ON WALLS.
GEE. USED TO BE WHEN YOU MADE A JOKE, IT WAS FUNNY.
SO... YOU FIGURED OUT JACK YET?
FIGURED OUT? WELL... HE LOOKS FAMILIAR, BUT...
HERE. TAKE A CLOSER LOOK.
POIT
Huh?!
I USED TO BE A HEAD OF STATE.


THROUGH HERE, RISQUE.
I'M AFRAID HE HASN'T SPOKEN SINCE THE... ACCIDENT.
HIS NEURAL NET PROCESSORS WERE SEVERELY DAMAGED. WE'VE REPAIRED MUCH OF IT, BUT HE STILL ISN'T RESPONDING.
Ohhh VENTURE.
LOOK WHAT THAT BEASTLY SPIDER-MAN DID TO YOU! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY! DON'T YOU FRET!

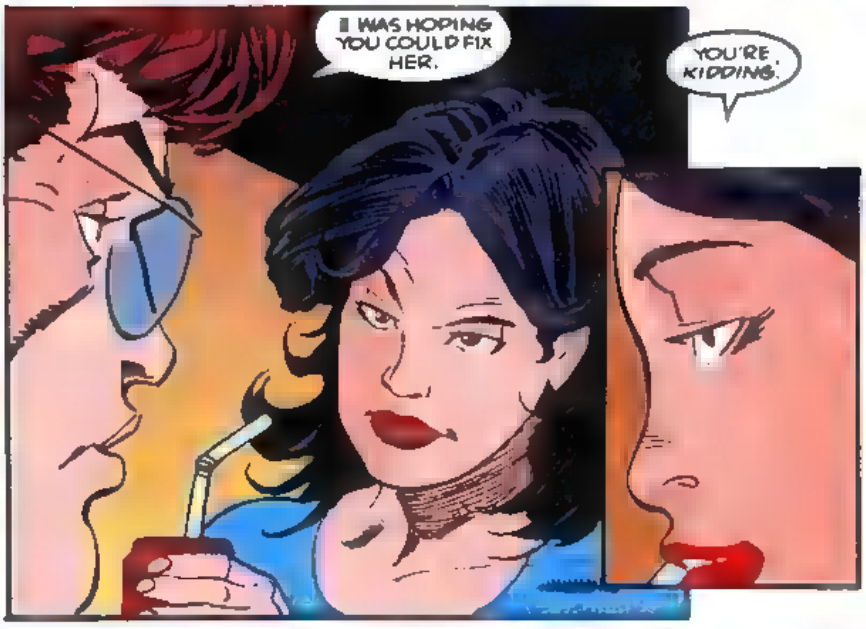

I'LL FINISH THE JOB, AND VINDICATE YOUR NAME!
LOOK! HE'S RESPONDING! I...I THINK [redacted] GOING TO SPEAK!
Spider-Man... [redacted] mine, ya freakin' harridan...
Tough luck, jerkweed. YOU fumbled the ball and I'm running with it.
HE WISHES ME THE BEST OF LUCK!!
TA, BROTHER

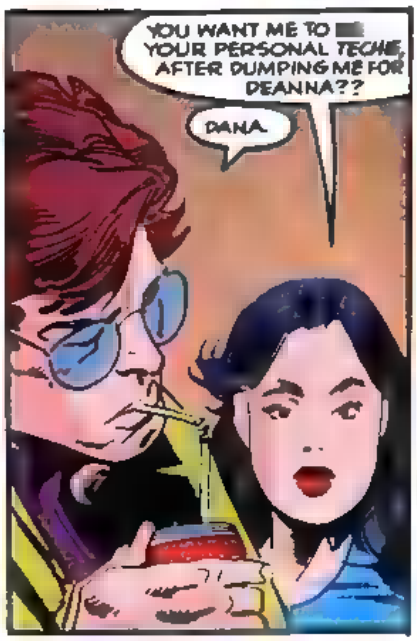

INCREDIBLE. YOU BUILT HIM YOURSELF? OUT OF WHAT?
CYBORG REPLACEMENT PARTS, SIMULACRUMS, WHATEVER. HEAD WAS THE TOUGHEST, THOUGH'S COMPLETELY REBUILT.
SHELL CAME FROM A GUY WHOSE GREAT GRANDFATHER SWIPED IT AFTER THE GREAT QUAKE IN 2030 THAT WRECKED DISNEYLAND.
HAD ONE FROM PRESIDENT CLINTON, TOO.
WHICH ONE? BILL OR CHELSEA?
Y'KNOW, I FORGOT TO ASK.
I GOTTA ADMIT, MIGGY, IF YOU'D SHOWN UP HERE A YEAR AGO, I'D'VE PECKED YOU
YOU REALLY HURT ME
I KNOW. I'M SORRY
SORRY?" WOW. YOU NEVER USED TO APOLOGIZE.
GUESS, CAUSE YOU WERE A SELF CENTERED, ARROGANT, POMPOUS JERK.
I WAS NEVER POMPOUS
IF I WAS THAT BAD, WHY WERE WE A COUPLE?
CAUSE I FELT SORRY FOR YOU
AND CAUSE IT BUGGED YOUR DAD
HOW IS THE DIMWIT, ANYWAY?
DEAD.
OH. SORRY.

SO... YOU, uh... STILL SEEING DONNA?
DANA, AND YES. WE'RE ENGAGED, IN FACT, THOUGH WE HAVEN'T SET A DATE.
WELL, I'LL JUST KEEP MY SOCIAL CALENDAR CLEAR UNTIL YOU DO.
SO WHAT YOU WANT, ANYWAY?

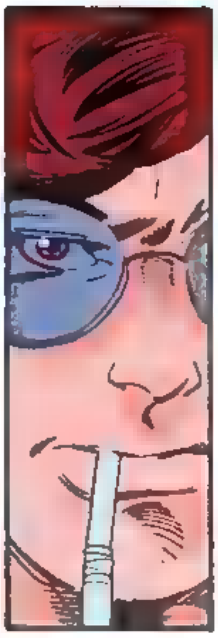
I NEED THE HELP OF AN EXPERT IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.
WELL, I DATED YOU, SO OBVIOUSLY, I HAVE NO USE [redacted] GENUINE INTELLIGENCE.
WHY DO YOU NEED AN A.I. EXPERT?

'CAUSE MY HOLOGENT GOT FRIED DURING THE TECH GLITCHES THE OTHER DAY.


I WAS HOPING YOU COULD FIX HER.
YOU'RE KIDDING.


YOU WANT ME TO [redacted] YOUR PERSONAL TECHIE, AFTER DUMPING ME FOR DEANNA??
DANA.

GIMME [redacted] GOOD REASON WHY I SHOULD.
'CAUSE DANA COULDN'T DO IT IN A MILLION YEARS.



I'LL GET MY TOOLS.

DOWNTOWN
KASEY?
SHE'S NOT HERE.
OH, RAFF. UH...HI.
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE, O'HARA? I THOUGHT [redacted] BROKE IT OFF.
SHE DID. I CAME TO TRY AND GET HER TO BREAK IT BACK ON. WHERE IS SHE?
I DON'T KNOW. WE WERE "BORROWING" A COPCAR WHEN SOME ARMORED NUTCASE ROADBLOCKED US. WE SMASHED INTO HIM, AND THAT'S THE LAST I REMEMBER.
ARMOR? DID HE HAVE A SWORD?
WAS IT THE SPECIALIST?!
IT WAS SOME S.I.E.G.E. GUY. WE'D HEARD RUMORS ABOUT THEM.
JOINT VENTURE OF ALCHY AND STARK-FUJI.
THERE'S BEEN NO ARREST REPORT ON HER. I'VE CHECKED. THE SYSTEM'S SWALLOWED HER, MAN. [redacted] COULD ANYWHERE.
NOT AGAIN.
DON'T TELL ME I GOTTA GO TO MIGGY FOR HELP AGAIN.
JEEZ, KASEY, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU THIS TIME?

I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME, MISS NASH.
IN MANY WAYS, WE ARE ALIKE, YOU AND I. YOU WILL BECOME A FIT ASSOCIATE FOR SPIDER-MAN, AND THEN THERE WILL BE BALANCE.
AND ONCE IT'S DONE, I'LL BRING THIS PLACE DOWN AROUND YOUR EARS.
DOUBTLESS AT THIS MOMENT YOU FANTASIZE BETRAYALS. POOR KARYN "KASEY" NASH. HOW LITTLE YOU KNOW.

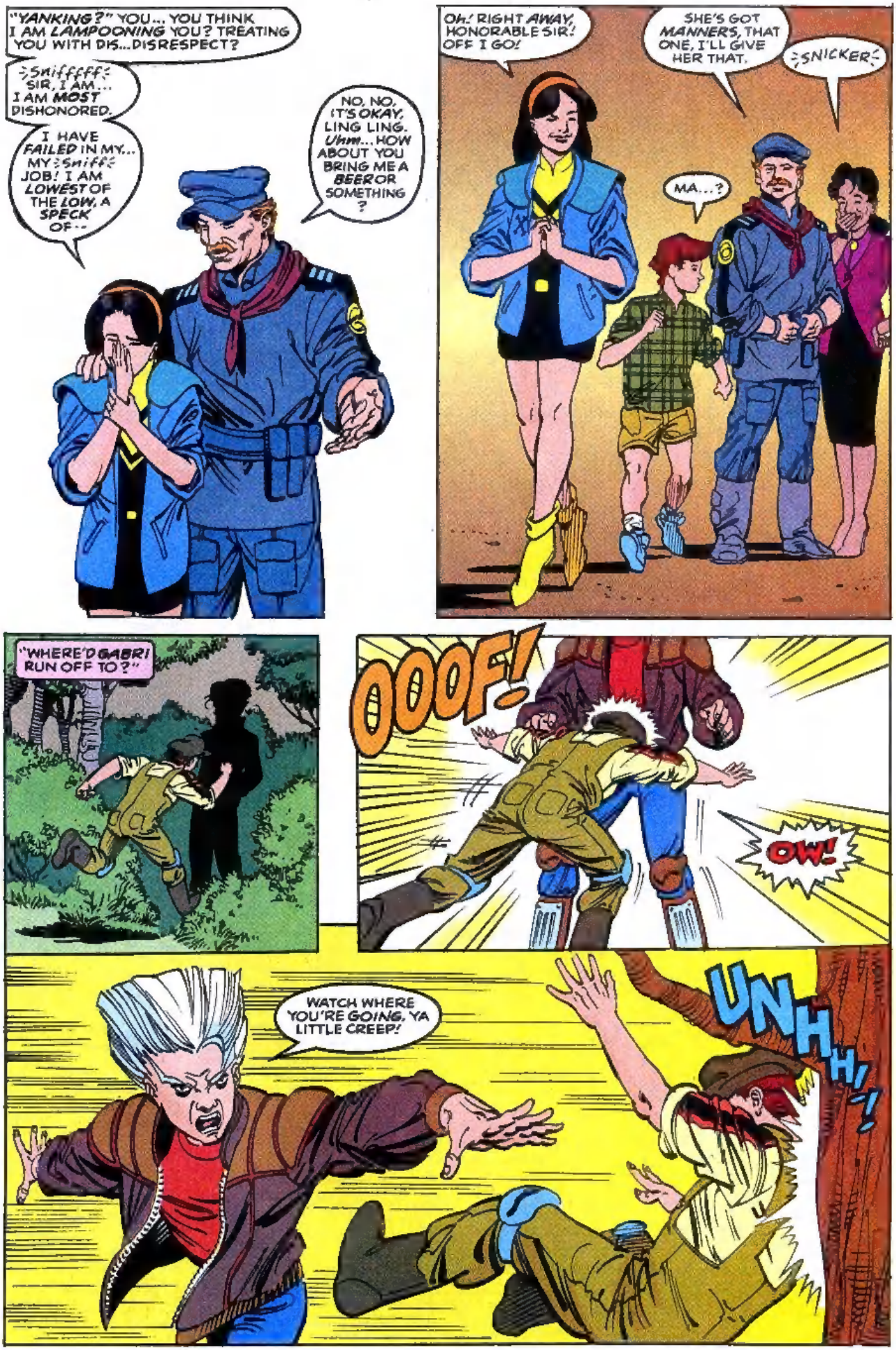
NEXT: ONE OF THESE BATTLES WON'T BE NEXT ISSUE -- SPIDEY vs. RISQUE! RISQUE vs. KASEY! DANA vs. XINA! ROE vs. WADE!

FIND OUT WHICH IT IS IN:

ASSAULT AND BATTERIES

STAN LEE PRESENTS:
YOUNG MIGUEL O'HARA
VISITING DAY
WELL, FAMILY. ISN'T THIS SCHOOL EVERYTHING ALCHEMAX PROMISED IT WOULD BE? IT'S A REMARKABLE...
PRISON.
MA, GABRI'S RUNNING ALL OVER THE PLACE. HE'S ACTING LIKE A LITTLE KID.
HE DOES THAT FROM TIME TO TIME.
PETER DAVID, WRITER
CHRIS BATISTA, PENCILER
DON HUDSON, INKER
LOIS BUHALIS, LETTERER
[redacted] BUCCELLATO, COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI, EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO, HEADMASTER

DON'T SOUND SO SOUR, CONCHATA. ADMIT IT. MIGUEL'S SCHOOL WONDERFUL.
WHO AM I TO DARE DISAGREE WITH ANYTHING YOU SAY, GEORGE?
CRIPES. WHO'S RUNNING THIS PLACE ANYWAY. ALCHEMAX, OR STARK-FUJIKAWA?
DAAAADD!!
WELL, WHO NEEDS THE GROUNDS CRAWLING WITH THE JAPANESE, ANYWAY?
I COULD NOT HELP BUT OVER-HEAR, HONORABLE SIR.
I AM NO JAPANESE STUDENT.
I AM LING LING, A HUMBLE CHINESE SERVING GIRL, HERE FOR YOUR DINING NEEDS.
ARE YOU YANKING ME, GIRL?


"YANKING?" YOU... YOU THINK I AM LAMPOONING YOU? TREATING YOU WITH DIS...DISRESPECT?
:Sniffffff: SIR, I AM... I AM MOST DISHONORED.
I HAVE FAILED IN MY... MY :Sniff: JOB! I AM LOWEST OF THE LOW, A SPECK OF--
NO, NO, IT'S OKAY, LING LING. Uhm... HOW ABOUT YOU BRING ME A BEER OR SOMETHING?
OH! RIGHT AWAY, HONORABLE SIR! OFF I GO!
SHE'S GOT MANNERS, THAT ONE, I'LL GIVE HER THAT.
:SNICKER:
MA...?
"WHERE'D GABRI RUN OFF TO?"
OOOF!
OW!
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YA LITTLE CREEP!
UNHHH!

MAAHHmeee...!
THANK YOU MOST KINDLY FOR ALLOWING MY UNWORTHY SELF TO SERVE YOU.
THERE GOES A YOUNG GIRL WHO KNOWS HOW TO ACT!
NOT A LOT UPSTAIRS, BUT SHE'S RESPECTFUL.
BEER TASTES A LITTLE STRANGE, THOUGH.
WAIT... I HEAR GABRI!
HE'S CRYING!
GET UP, LITTLE PUNK!
GABRI!
OOO, MOMMY COME TO RESCUE Y--
OWWW!!!
I HANDLED CREEPS LIKE YOU FOR YEARS! SO DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW!

GET BACK, CONCHATA. I'LL HANDLE THIS.
OH, THE TOUGH DAD OF THE FAMILY!
YOUR WHINING BRATS TAKE AFTER YOU?
DAD, GET AWAY FROM HIM! HE'S CRAZY!
HE'S NOT CRAZY!
HE'S DEAD!
GEORGE... THAT'S MOST UNWISE.
I SUGGEST YOU PUT MY SON, KRON, DOWN...
...BEFORE THINGS GET UGLY.
NEXT: PARENT CONFERENCES

ARACHNOPHILIA

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
LIA PELOSI
ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST

Out Of My Head

Not a lot of guys get to go to their grammar school reunion. Mine was held about a month ago, and was really remarkable! It was held in our old school's basement, and I was made to feel welcome from the second I stepped into the place again. Which was great, 'cause I was really close to those people for the eight years I was there, and they reminded me why I still maintain a warm affection for them many years later. Not a day goes by when I don't think about 'em.

My thanks to Greg Simicich, one of the event's organizers, and to Manny Muñoz, who found and contacted me. How'd they track me down? They remembered that I was the biggest comics fan then, and drawing my own (my medium then was Bic ballpoint on looseleaf. I still haven't found anything better). Manny recalled that I cracked the comics biz, just called Marvel Comics on a hunch, and there I was.

Real good, considering I couldn't go to my college reunion. *They* couldn't locate me, despite the fact that I'm typing these words in an office five blocks from the school.

Dear *Arachnophilia*,

This is my first...oh, forget that. I've collected SPIDER-MAN 2099 since its release back in November of '92 and I have to say it's unique. Outstanding. Marvelous. Excellent. Take your pick.

Now we have issue #19. We have this new villain, Discord, who really needs to get his life back together. There are the few glitches with Lyla which are most likely related to Discord. Then we have Gabriel (a.k.a. Firelight) and finally, young Miguel O'Hara. We get to see what Miguel did when he was a young brat. All that I listed is okay.

I love the Arachknight's new look, especially those rollerskates. Don't lose this look; it's much better than the other costume (yeah, right).

When it comes to villains, they've all been excellent. Venture, the Specialist, the Vulture, Thanatos (who I have some theories about) and finally Bloodsword (or Bloodhammer).

Well, until you decide to keep this new look for the S-Man...

Wade E. Blanford
PO Box 75
Roberds, KY 42452

Didn't go for the wheels, huh, Wade? Looks like you're not alone...

Dear Sirs,

I've been an avid fan of SPIDER-MAN 2099 since issue #1.

Imagine my surprise when I picked up issue #19. Please tell me that this is a bad dream and that the original Spider-Man 2099 costume will be returning soon. This new outfit makes Miguel look like a rollerskate and helmet-wearing stormtrooper from a Star Wars sequel filmed on the streets of Venice Beach!

Sorry for the criticism, but the threads have to go.

Mark Miranda
188 Egbert Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10310

It was all a bad dream, Mark! We wouldn't mess with perfection.

Dear Joey,

Where, oh where does the quotation, "I am cursed to live in interesting times", (SPIDER-MAN 2099 #19) come from? It's driving me mad!

Mike Sperlinger
London, England

Mike, it's supposedly an ancient Chinese curse that runs, "May you live in interesting times."

Dear *Arachnophilia*,

In issue #19, Tyler Case asked what happened at the end of the Heroic Age that apparently wiped out all of the present-day super heroes.

In issue #15, on the letters page, somebody asked what happened to the present-day alien races; if people didn't want them around or if they just left at the end of the Heroic Age. You replied by asking if there was a third possibility he didn't think of. Then in issue #19, Miguel asked the announcement board if World War IV would be a major problem, meaning there must have been a World War III.

I believe that sometime near the turn of the century, alien races presented themselves to mankind. Most people feared them and demanded they leave. Humans tried to force them to go back to their home planet but the aliens resisted and fought back, resulting in WWIII.

All of the present-day heroes joined the fight, some fighting on the human side, some on the alien side. The heroes opposing the aliens were ultimately destroyed by their vast technology. When the humans finally drove the aliens off, they took their fellow super heroes with them. Pretty cool theory, huh?

Tommy Schrimsher
1787 Cobb St.
Woodville, AL 35776

Sure is, Tom! Now tell us, is this an Annual, a crossover or a mini-series?

Dear *Arachnophilia*,

Well, it's happened. I have joined your hallowed ranks. I'm here to answer some questions that we constant readers have proposed.

1) Thanatos. I don't think he's either Aaron or the Vulture. Both of them were probably too squished to be usable. I think Thanatos is the Specialist, or maybe Sgt. Estevez.

2) Lyla. No comment.

3) Tyler Stone. He knows Miguel is Spider-Man. If you think back, he tried to tell Dana that Miguel was dead before they went to the floating city.

A few observations if I may. There seems to have been a world war at the end of the Heroic Age. This is shown by Spidey's comment about WWIV. One last thing---if someone rides you about continuity of the present, or killing off their favorite heroes, simply give them the Parallel Universes and Branching Futures theorem. The P.U.B.F. states that when anything has two or more paths to take, it takes both but in different universes.

Ellen Brand
92 Hawthorn Lane
Allegany, NY 14706

So, Ellen, you're saying that in an alternate universe, Joey stayed at the Deciduous Competition, continued to edit books about furry licensed creatures, and there were never any 2099 comics? We'll stick with the idea that this is the future of the Marvel Universe!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

This is it! The month of the very first SPIDER-MAN 2099 ANNUAL in all its glory! It features THREE big tales, including the requested reappearance of one of Spidey's greatest allies! If you've had some questions about our futuristic web-slinger's previous adventures, and have had trouble finding our earlier issues, this is the mag for you!

Also, pretty soon after, 2099 UNLIMITED #6 will be ready! It features the last tale of the HULK 2099 to be found in those pages, before going on to his own mag later this year! Plus, two even wilder features! Watch for it!

NEXT ISSUE

Miggy has to eat crow and visit Xina, to get Lyla back on-line! Plus, one of our cast members becomes the ultimate warrior...Payback! All that, plus Gabe, Risque, and the return of a villain you've clamored for, all in "Assault and Batteries!" It's more action as only Peter and Rick can deliver it!